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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



CHRIS GIUNCHIGLIANI
Commissioner

Board of County Commissioners

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Nevada

Environmental Protection

FEB 14 2008

BAFC / BAQP

February 12, 2008

Mr. Rod Moore
NV Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Air Pollution Control
901 S. Stewart St., # 4001
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Mr. Moore:

Please accept this document for the Public Hearing on the operating permit for the proposed Toquop Coal fired plant in Mesquite. I am opposed to the permit for the following reasons:

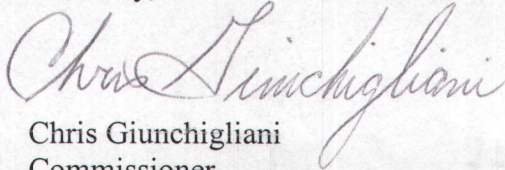
- The modeling they have provided will have adverse impacts on visibility, nitrogen and sulfur deposits at the Lake Mead Recreation area and citizens downwind from the site, including the City of Mesquite. The proposal to issue the Toquop permit is inconsistent with the PSD mandate of the Clean Air Act.
- It appears that Toquop did not conduct any cumulative Class I increment analyses. There are no exemptions from the requirement under the PSD regulations and the Clean air Act. Toquop is located near several national parks and wilderness areas that could be negatively impacted.
- The proposed site and its infrastructure pose potential threats to plant and animal species in the area. This area is also an important area for desert tortoise habitat. There is also a recent discovery of Las Vegas Buckwheat near Lincoln County. The nitrogen deposits from smoke stack emissions would impact this species as well.
- There may be a negative impact on pumping additional groundwater for this site. The water demands for this proposed facility can impact the groundwater pumping. I am unaware of data to support the additional pumping.
- Finally, there will be significant quantities of carbon released into the atmosphere. I believe that at a minimum no coal-fired plant in Nevada should be allowed to move forward until a plan, which includes financing and timelines, is provided to demonstrate that they can properly sequester the dangerous carbon emissions.

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I do hope you will listen to the concerns of many residents from Clark County. As you know our senior U.S. Senator has called for a moratorium on the construction of new coal-fired plants.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Chris Giunchigliani
Commissioner

cc: Senator Harry Reid
Clark County Board of Commissioners
Clark County Department of Air Quality & Environmental Management